



UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY  
REGION III  
1650 Arch Street  
Philadelphia, Pennsylvania 19103-2029

AUG 23 2012

The Honorable Bill Shuster  
U.S. House of Representatives  
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Representative Shuster:

Thank you for your letter of July 17, 2012 concerning the watershed plan proposed by AMD Reclamation, Inc. (AMDRI) for the Shannopin Mine Pool and Dana Mining Company's operations.

The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) has been in discussion with the Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection (PADEP), Dana Mining, and AMDRI over the past two years regarding this operation. On July 27, 2012, we met with PADEP to discuss AMDRI's latest proposal and available options. PADEP will be reaching out to AMDRI to discuss their proposal in advance of a joint meeting to be scheduled with PADEP, Dana Mining, AMDRI, and EPA.

We appreciate the environmental improvements that can be gained by providing treatment for abandoned mine drainage seeps which affect aquatic life in Dunkard Creek. We are also interested in assuring that the Monongahela River, currently listed as impaired for sulfates and drinking water use, receives the best possible outcome in the long-term from this project.

EPA remains committed to working with the parties to find solutions that improve water quality, comply with the law, and support a strong economy. If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact me or have your staff contact Mrs. Laura Mohollen, EPA's Pennsylvania Liaison, at 215-814-3295.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, which appears to read "Shawn M. Garvin", is positioned above the typed name.

Shawn M. Garvin  
Regional Administrator